IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-15 and 17-37, cancel claim 16 and add new claims 38-41 as follows.

1.   (Currently Amended)   A method ~~of controlling a connection comprising a first link and a second link, said method~~ comprising ~~the steps of~~:

determining if a first <u>radio</u> link or a second link of a plurality of links is limiting capacity of ~~said~~ <u>a</u> connection <u>comprising the first radio link and the second link</u>; and

changing at least one parameter relating to at least one of said first and said second links to change the capacity of said first link or said second link if said at least one of said first and said second links is limiting capacity of the connection<u>, whereby the average power per bit in said radio link is changed.</u>~~.~~

2.   (Currently Amended)   ~~A~~ <u>The</u> method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises changing the at least one parameter relating to said at least one of said first and said second links to increase the capacity of said first link or said second link.

3.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The</u> ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises changing the at least one parameter relating to another of said first and said second links to improve quality of said connection.

4.   (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the changing step comprises changing the at least one parameter that comprises at least one of bit rate, error rate, block error rate, bit error rate, activity factor at an interface with the at least one said first link or said second link, and scheduling of users with a given bit rate.

5.   (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the changing step comprises decreasing said bit rate.

6.   (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the changing step comprises increasing the error rate if said first link is limiting capacity.

7.   (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 4, wherein t the changing step comprises decreasing the error rate if the second link is limiting said bit rate.

8.   (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the changing step comprises using a higher activity factor at an interface with said second link if said first link is limiting capacity.

9.   (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the

changing ~~step~~ comprises using a lower activity factor at an interface with said second link if said second link is limiting capacity.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises scheduling increased capacity to users with a relatively low power per bit if said first link is limiting capacity.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises scheduling increased capacity to users with a relatively high power per bit if said second link is limiting capacity.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises using fair throughput scheduling if the first link is limiting capacity.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises using fair resource scheduling if said second link is limiting capacity.

14.   (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises changing the at least one parameter which has at least one limiting value.

15.   (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 14, wherein ~~the~~ changing ~~step~~ comprises changing the at least one parameter, and wherein said limiting value is one of an absolute value and amount of change in said at least one parameter.

16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ determining ~~step~~ comprises determining said second link comprises a transport link.

18.   (Currently Amended) A method ~~of controlling a connection comprising a first link and a second link, said method~~ comprising ~~the steps of~~:

determining if a first <u>radio</u> link or a second link is limiting capacity of ~~said~~ <u>a</u> connection <u>comprising the first radio link and the second link</u>; and

changing at least one parameter relating to at least one of said first and said second links whereby the other of said first and said second links is used to improve the quality of said connection if said one of said first and said second links is limiting capacity<u>, and whereby the average power per bit in said radio link is changed</u>.

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19.   (Currently Amended)   A method ~~of selecting a bit rate for a connection comprising a first link and a second link, said method~~ comprising ~~the steps of~~:

determining if resources are available in a first link and a second link for a given bit rate <u>to select a bit rate for a connection comprising a first link and second link</u>;

selecting a bit rate from a plurality of bit rates for which it is determined in said determining ~~step~~ that resources are available in both said first and said second links; and

using said selected bit rate in said connection.

20.   (Currently Amended)   ~~A~~ <u>The</u> method as claimed in claim 19, wherein ~~said~~ determining ~~step~~ comprises performing said determining initially with a minimum bit rate with each successive determining ~~step~~ using a higher bit rate.

21.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The</u> ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 19, wherein ~~said~~ determining ~~step~~ comprises performing ~~said~~ determining ~~step~~ initially with a maximum bit rate with each successive determining ~~step~~ using a lower bit rate.

22.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The</u> ~~A~~ method as claimed in claim 20, wherein ~~said~~ determining ~~step~~ comprises performing ~~said~~ determining ~~step~~ until the bit rate is selected for which resources are available in both said first and said second links.

23.   (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed of claim 19, wherein said selecting step comprises selecting the highest bit rate for which resources are available in both said first and said second links.

24.   (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said determining step comprises determining for said first link if sufficient code or power or hardware or baseband resources are available.

25.   (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said using step comprises using said selected bit rate in said connection, said connection comprising one of a new connection and an established connection.

26.   (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 19, further comprising providing a plurality of connections which comprises said first link and said second link.

27.   (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said determining and selecting steps comprise determining and selecting for at least two of said plurality of connections.

28.   (Currently Amended) The A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said

determining step for said second link comprises summing the bit rates for said plurality of connections.

29.   (Currently Amended) A method of changing a bit rate for one of a plurality of connections comprising a first link and a second link, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a new bit rate for a connection of a plurality of connections to change a bit rate for one of the plurality of connections comprising a first link and a second link;

determining if resources are available in both said first and second links for said new bit rate;

and selecting said new bit rate for said connection if the resources are available.

30.   (Currently Amended) A controller, for controlling a connection comprising a first link and a second link, said controller comprising:

a determining unit configured to determine means for determining if a said first radio link or a said second link is limiting capacity of a said connection comprising the first radio link and the second link; and

a unit configured to cause means for causing at least one parameter relating to at least one of said first and said second links to be changed, thereby changing the capacity of said at least one of said first and said second links, if said first link or said second link is limiting capacity in the connection, whereby the average power per bit in said radio link is changed.

31.   (Currently Amended) A controller, ~~for controlling a connection comprising a first link and a second link, said controller~~ comprising:

a determining unit configured to determine ~~means for determining~~ a first radio link or a second link is limiting capacity of a ~~said~~ connection comprising the first radio link and the second link; and

a unit configured to cause ~~means for causing~~ at least one parameter relating to at least one of said first and said second links to be changed if said first link or said second link is ~~changing~~ limiting capacity whereby another of said first and second links is used to improve the quality of said connection, whereby the average power per bit in said radio link is changed.

32.   (Currently Amended) A controller, ~~for selecting a bit rate for a connection comprising a first link and a second link, said controller~~ comprising:

a determining unit configured to determine ~~determining means for determining for~~ a plurality of bit rates if resources are available in both a ~~said~~ first and second links for a given bit rate to select a bit rate for a connection comprising a first link and a second link; and

a selecting unit configured to select ~~selecting means for selecting~~ a bit rate for which it is determined in said determining ~~step~~ that the resources are available in both said first and second links.

33.   (Currently Amended) A controller, ~~for changing a bit rate for one connection of a plurality of connections comprising a first link and a second link, said controller~~ comprising:

a unit configured to select ~~means for selecting~~ a new bit rate for ~~said~~ one connection to change the bit rate for the one connection of a plurality of connections including a first link and a second link; and

a unit configured to determine ~~means for determining~~ if resources are available in both said first and second links for said new bit rate; and

a unit configured to select ~~means for selecting~~ said new bit rate for said connection if said resources are available.

34.   (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ controller as claimed in claim 30, wherein said controller comprises software, said software providing one or more of the following:

means for determining, means for selecting, and means for causing.

35.   (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ controller as claimed in claim 30, wherein said controller is provided in a radio network controller.

36.   (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a first entity;

a second entity;

a third entity, wherein a connection is establishable between said first, second and third entities with a first link provided between the first entity and the second entity and a second link provided between said second entity and said third entity; and

a controller for controlling the connection comprising the first link and the second link, the controller including

~~means for determining~~ a determining unit configured to determine if said first link or said second link is limiting capacity of said connection; and

changing at least one parameter for relating to at least one of said first and said second links to change the capacity of said first link or said second link if the one of said first and said second links is limiting capacity in the connection.

37.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product <u>embodied on a computer readable medium, the computer program product</u> comprising software code portions, the software code portions, when executed, <u>to effect</u> ~~control a connection having a first link and a second link, the software code portions to effect the steps comprising:~~

determining if a first link or a second link is limiting capacity of a <u>said</u> connection <u>comprising the first link and the second link</u>; and

changing at least one parameter relating to at least one of said first and said second links to change capacity of said first link or said second link if the one of said first and said second links is limiting capacity in the connection.

38. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

determining means for determining if a first radio link or second link is limiting capacity of a connection comprising the first radio link and the second link; and

causing means for causing at least one parameter relating to at least one of said first and said second links to be changed, thereby changing the capacity of said at least one of said first and second links, if said first link or said second link is limiting capacity in the connection, whereby the average power per bit in said radio link is changed.

39. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

determining means for determining a first link or a second link is limiting capacity of a connection comprising the first link and the second link; and

causing means for causing at least one parameter relating to at least one of said first and said second links to be changed if said first link or said second link is limiting capacity whereby another of said first and second links is used to improve the quality of said connection, whereby the average power per bit in said radio link is changed.

40. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

determining means for determining for a plurality of bit rates if resources are available in both a first and second links for a given bit rate to select a bit rate for a connection comprising a first link and a second link; and

selecting means for selecting a bit rate for which it is determined in said determining step that the resources are available in both said first and second links.

41.   (New) An apparatus, comprising:

selecting means for selecting a new bit rate for one connection to change the bit rate for the one connection of a plurality of connections including a first link and a second link; and

determining means for determining if resources are available in both said first and second links for said new bit rate; and

selecting means for selecting said new bit rate for said connection if said resources are available.